



**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES**

**DIVISION FOR REGULATORY SERVICES  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER SAFETY SECTION  
POLICY, STANDARDS, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE UNIT  
PUBLIC SANITATION AND RETAIL FOOD SAFETY GROUP**

**PUBLIC HEALTH SANITATION & CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY  
REGULATORY GUIDELINES**

**Date: MARCH 1, 2012**

**EHPSQAC NO. 003**

**SUBJECT: Signs Required at Public Pools and Spas**

Applicable Texas Administrative Code: 25 TAC §265.199(f), Signs for post-10/01/99 and pre-10/01/99 pools

- 1) Pool signs are required to be securely mounted and visible to the pool user from inside the pool enclosure.
- 2) When no lifeguard is **provided** at a Class C facility a sign with the words **"NO DIVING"** in at least 4-inch letters and with a minimum 4-inch **international symbol for no diving** shall be posted.
- 3) For pools where no lifeguard is **required** the following signs shall be posted:
  - a. **"WARNING-NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY"** minimum 4-inch letters;
  - b. **The International "No Diving" symbol** a minimum of 4" in height; and
  - c. **"CHILDREN SHOULD NOT USE POOL WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION"** minimum 2-inch letters; **The Department of State Health Services is Currently Not Enforcing this sign requirement.**
- 4) When the required telephone is not visible in the pool yard directions

Public Health Sanitation and Consumer Product Safety Group • PO Box 149347, Mail Code 1987 •  
Austin, Texas 78714-9347

(512) 834-6788 • Facsimile: (512) 834-6707 • <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/poolspa>

to the phone shall be posted in letters a minimum of 1-inch in height;

- 5) All pool yards shall have a sign posted in the yard with letters at least 1-inch in height stating, **"IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CALL 911"**; and
- 6) Post-10/01/99 pools shall post a maximum user load limit sign based upon the following table:

Shallow/Instructional or Beginning or Wading Areas (less than 5 ft. in depth)	Deep Area (5 Ft. Deep or Greater and not Including Diving Area)	Diving Area
1 Swimmer to 15 sq. ft. surface area in shallow areas	1 Swimmer to 25 sq. ft. surface area in deep areas	1 Swimmer to 300 sq. ft. surface area in diving area

**Pool operators may post a lower maximum load limit than calculated, but the load limit may not exceed the ratios in the table above.**

- 7) Each entry gate and door of a pool yard that is locked must have a sign on the exterior of the gate or door, or on the exterior of the enclosure fence or wall next to the gate or door, stating the location of the telephone if the telephone is located outside of the enclosure.

**Applicable Texas Administrative Code: 25 TAC §265.205(7), Signs for post-10/01/99 and pre-10/01/99 spas.**

- 1) Spa signs are required to be securely mounted and visible to the pool user from inside the spa enclosure.
- 2) A sign shall be posted with the location of the nearest telephone or emergency summoning device;
- 3) All spas shall have the sign stating **"DO NOT USE THE SPA IF THE WATER TEMPERATURE IS ABOVE 104 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT (40 DEGREES CENTIGRADE)** in letters at least 1-inch in height.
- 4) All spas shall post a maximum user load limit sign which shall be calculated at 1 person per 10 square feet of spa surface area. **Spa operators may post a lower maximum load limit than calculated, but the load limit may not exceed the 1/10 ratio.**

- 5) For spas where no lifeguard is **required** the following signs shall be posted:
- a. **The International “No Diving” symbol** a minimum of 4” in height; and
  - b. **“WARNING-NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY”** in letters a minimum of 4-inches in height; and
  - c. **“CHILDREN SHOULD NOT USE SPA WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION”** minimum 2-inch letters; **The Department of State Health Services is Currently Not Enforcing this sign requirement.**;

All required signage can be combined and placed on one placard as long as the sign is visible in all areas of the pool or spa yard.